

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please **add** the following **new** paragraph at page 1, line 3:

-- This application claims the benefit, under 35 U.S.C. § 365 of International Application PCT/EP03/50639, filed September 18, 2003, which was published in accordance with PCT Article 21(2) on April 22, 2004 in French and which claims the benefit of French patent application No. 0212931, filed September 27, 2002.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION --**

Please **add** the following **new** paragraph after the paragraph ending at page 7, line 27:

**-- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION --**

Please **add** the following **new** paragraph after the paragraph ending at page 13, line 8:

**-- BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS --**

Please **add** the following **new** paragraph after the paragraph ending at page 14, line 23:

**-- DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS --**